FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 OCTOBER 1986

Libya

Comment on Kalb Resignation — JANA's political editor viewed U.S. State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb's resignation as a clear indication that the "fig leaf" covering U.S. leaders has fallen, revealing President Reagan's "ugly attempts" to mislead the U.S. and world public opinion by using "lies and trickery" against Libya.

Italian Reaction to Al-Qadhdhafi — The "offensive and threatening" remarks about Italy contained in Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's 7 October speech were described by an Italian Foreign Ministry spokesman as "absurd" and unworthy of comment, Rome radio reported. Italy was "disconcerted" by Al-Qadhdhafi's verbal attacks, which came only a few days before the two countries are due to sign a scientific and cultural agreement, the radio said.

Syria

Denying "direct or indirect" Syrian complicity in the April attempt to sabotage an El Al airliner, a Damascus Radio commentary charged that such accusations are part of "Israeli-U.S. psychological warfare" which has launched a "new campaign" of pressure. Syria denounces terrorism, especially those acts by "hired tools" of the United States and Israel, the commentary stressed, adding that Syria has offered to help France expose those behind recent "terrible terrorist acts" in Paris.

Lebanon

Shaykh Subhi Salih's funeral was held in Tripoli 8 October, Beirut radio reported, adding that his assassination was denounced by Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the Sunni mufti, and by Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council. Khalid and Shams al-Din had cut short their visit to the Soviet Union because of Salih's murder.

As for the "camps war" near Tyre, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported further clashes between Amal Movement and Palestinian gunmen in the Al-Rashidiyah camp area, adding that ongoing meetings and consultations have thus far failed to resolve the conflict. In Beirut, five people were killed in clashes between rival Palestinian factions in Burj al-Barajinah, according to Voice of Lebanon radio.

Iran-FRG

About 300 Iranian "students" temporarily occupied grounds of the FRG Embassy in Tehran to protest the closure of the Iranian stand at the Frankfurt Book Fair and the arrest of a number of Islamic Republic supporters by the FRG police, IRNA reported.

The demonstrators forced their way into the compound despite "police efforts" and preventive action by embassy guards, who used teargas, IRNA added. In a related report, AFP said that Iranian police stood by but did not intervene. The Iranian Foreign Ministry apologized to the FRG for the incident, DPA noted.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian shelling of Basra killed 6 civilians and wounded 10, according to an Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio.

DRA

TASS announced that the withdrawal of six Soviet regiments from the DRA will begin 15 October and will be completed by the end of the month.

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Babrak Karmal Receives New PLO Ambassador

LD091043 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 9 Oct 86

[Text] Kabul, October 8, BAKHTAR — Babrak Karmal, member of Politburo of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA received Ismael Abu Shamala [spelling of name as received], the new ambassador of the Palestine Liberation Organisation at the headquarters of the Revolutionary Council for the presentation of his credentials today.

Shah Muhammad Dost, minister of foreign affairs of the DRA, was also present on the occasion.

Delegation Departs for Moscow Conference 9 Oct

LD091032 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 9 Oct 86

[Text] Kabul, October 8, BAKHTAR — An Afghan delegation headed by Niaz Muhammad Mohmand, secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA left Kabul to Moscow to participate in the international conference which is being held under the title of "Working Class and Present Epoch".

The delegation will also participate in the session of the preparation group of the regional conference of workers and communist parties of Asian and Atlantic countries to be held in Moscow.

Kabul Cites Rebel Defector on Allegiance to Government

LD090014 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Excerpts] The trend of coming on the side of our revolutionary government by those compatriots who have fallen prey to the deception of the enemies of the revolution and who have cooperated with the counterrevolutionary bands, is continuing.

BIA reported that in following this line a 13-man armed group, led by Bahlul, ex-members of the Gulbuddin criminal band, after perceiving the truth of the April Revolution and realizing the futility of resistance against our country's heroic Armed Forces, have put down their weapons and surrendered to the country's security forces in Shakar Darreh District [Kabul Province] today.

Our compatriots, taking advantage of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium's amnesty decree, return in groups to our homeland's loving bosom. In this connection one of our deceived compatriots said the following to a Radio Afghanistan reporter:

We were in the ranks of the counterrevolutionary elements. Their [counterrevolutionaires] only reason [as heard] is allegedly that Islam is in danger in Afghanistan and mosques are closed in Kabul and those who follow the rituals, religion, and traditions are not allowed to go to the mosques and perform prayers. However, when I arrived in Kabul I saw that the mosques' doors were open and dozens of new mosques had been were built. [passage omitted]

We have decided and assured the government, our people, and our homeland that we will be faithful to our promise and will defend the people, homeland, and our revolution to the end and will never allow the counterrevolutionary elements to come to our region — Shakar Darreh valley — and to disrupt our security and to continue their antigovernment and antinational activities and sabotage. [passage omitted]

Counterrevolutionaries' Missiles Hit Gardeyz

LD082010 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Text] The barbarous counterrevolutionaries, by firing 22 surface-to-surface missiles to Bala Deh village of Gardeyz [capital of Paktia Province] that martyred a number of our innocent compatriots including children and women, have once again displayed their inhumane and anti-Islamic features.

BIA reported that as a result of launching surface-to-surface missiles which had been brought to our country from the other side of the border, 3 children, a woman, and 2 elders of the village were martyred, 16 residential houses were completly destroyed, a large number of cattle belonging to the village's farmers were killed due to fire, and heavy losses were inflicted upon agricultural production.

(Mowlawi Gholam Rasul), preacher of the communal mosque of Bala Deh village said: On Sunday evening, 5 October, while a large number of the village inhabitants were performing evening prayers, an explosion demolished the minaret of the communal mosque and all the worshippers left the mosque among the smoke, gunpowder, and dust. A number of other missiles hit our village subsequently, and caused heavy material and human losses.

He added that this inhumane and anti-Islamic action of the rebels once again proved that they do not attach value to the dictates of the sacred religion of Islam, and that they cause the martrydom of our innocent compatriots and destruction of our villages on the instructions of their criminal masters.

This evil deed of the barbarous counterrevolutionaries has been strongly condemned by the citizens of Gardeyz.

Ershad Terms Sheikh Hasina Wajed's Remarks 'Treason'

BK081625 Hong Kong AFP in English 1609 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Text] Dhaka, Oct 8 (AFP) — President Hussain Mohammad Ershad warned opposition leader Sheikh Hasina Wajed Wednesday that her recent public statements amounted to "treason".

The official BSS news agency cited Mr Ershad as telling a public meeting in the southeastern city of Jessore that Sheikh Hasina had attempted "to incite the Armed Forces to rise in rebellion". He said her statements had amounted to "sheer treason" and that she should "consult her associates if she does not know what punishment it entails".

Sheikh Hasina heads an eight-party opposition alliance which is boycotting presidential elections slated for next week.

The Awami League leader has sharpened her criticism of Mr Ershad's four-and-a-half year old martial law regime in recent weeks and said that there would be a mass protest if he did not resign his post. Mr Ershad called on Sheikh Hasina to refrain from such statements adding that "there is a limit to everything... even Allah does not like those who cross the limit."

Meanwhile, Sheikh Hasina said on Wednesday that the security forces had obstructed her anti-election campaign in the north of the country forcing her to miss flights and "make detours to reach destinations". The government on Sunday issued a martial law proclamation prohibiting all campaigning against the election and warning that violators could be sent to prison.

Sheikh Hasina said that the situation "was fast deteriorating" as the authorities were "increasing repressive measures" and obstructing freedom of expression. She said that her alliance would continue to campaign against the election calling for a boycott of the poll and a nationwide general strike.

Calls Opposition 'Paper Tigers'

BK060957 Hong Kong AFP in English 0931 GMT 6 Oct 86

[Excerpt] Dhaka, Oct 6 (AFP) — President Hussain Mohammad Ershad has dismissed Bangladesh's opposition parties as paper tigers, as the opposition accused his government of trying to gag it by banning anti-election activities.

Lieutenant General Ershad told local government officials here Sunday that the opposition parties' activities had shown that they were no more than "paper tigers," the official BSS news agency said Monday.

The opposition's influence was "almost nil" when the country's newspapers were closed during a 13-day strike by 6,000 print media employees, including journalists, which ended Sunday. [passage omitted]

4 Parliament Members Support Ershad in Elections

BK090244 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 9 Oct 86

[Text] The four JSD [Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal] members of Parliament say they are participating in the presidential elections in order to establish the rights of the workers and (?professionals). In a joint statement, Mr A.S.N. Abdur Rab, Professor Humayun Kabir, Mr Mustafizur Rahman, and Mr Punjab Ali Bishta, said the party supports President Ershad's various programs, including the Upzilla [subdistricts] system. It is for this reason that the party is giving support to President Ershad in the coming election.

The MP's urged the people to vote for President Ershad in the election.

President Urges 'Positive Results' From Iceland Summit
BK031039 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 3 Oct 86

[Text] The president, Giani Zail Singh, has expressed the hope that the forthcoming summit of two superpowers will lead to some positive results and avert the threat of a nuclear holocaust. He regretted that not only some individuals and groups, but a few governments are also indulging in acts of terrorism. Addressing troops at Jubbulpore, he said some foreign powers are exploiting the misguided elements to weaken the country. We have to guard the nation against such elements, he added.

The president said the Armed Forces have not only defended the country's unity and integrity, but have also rendered valuable service in providing relief to the people during national calamity. Later, the president laid a wreath at the war memorial of the Jammu and Kashmir rifles regiment and paid homage to those who sacrificed their lives defending the country. Giani Zail Singh also inaugurated a museum which is a rich collection of rare pieces depicting the glorious history of the regiment.

Gandhi on Reykjavik Summit, Pan Am Hijacking
BK081633 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Text] The prime minister has expressed the hope that the meeting between President Reagan and Mr Gorbachev at Reykjavik in Iceland will produce concrete results.

In an interview to *Blitz* weekly, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said it is extremely important whether two leaders build on the common perception they expressed at Geneva last year that a nuclear war cannot be won and must not be fought. He said it is most gratifying that the Soviet Union has extended its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests for the third time and has expressed willingness to proceed with nuclear disarmament within the framework of the 6-nation initiative.

Asked if he had heard anything from President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan, that warranted change in his views on the hijack of the Pan Am aircraft, the prime minister said everything that we have since heard only confirms the apprehensions expressed by India soon after the incident.

Jordan's Husayn Comments on Talks, Relations
BK081343 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Text] King Husayn of Jordan has said that several decisions have been taken to improve economic relations between India and his country. Talking to our correspondent at Delhi airport before his departure for Agra today, the king said that India's relations with Jordan and the entire Arab world are very cordial and will be strengthened further. Describing his talks with the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, as very fruitful, he said a wide range of subjects of mutual interest and ways concerning the Nonaligned Movement were discussed.

The king was seen off at the airport by President Giani Zail Singh, the prime minister, and other dignitaries. He was presented a guard of honor by contingents of the three services. King Husayn, who is accompanied by his wife, is to visit Jaipur, Bangalore, and Goa before leaving for Amman on the 15th of this month.

Explosion Damages CPI-M Office in Darjeeling
BK081610 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Text] An explosion rocked the CPI-M office in Darjeeling early this morning. There were no casualties but the blast damaged the printing press on the ground floor and part of the building.

Briefing newsmen in Calcutta, the West Bengal chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu, said that the miscreants have left behind a live explosive which is being examined by explosive experts from Calcutta. The chairman of the ruling (?left) party, Mr Saroj Mukherjee, and some other CPI-M leaders have condemned the incident.

Delhi Reports Bridge in Kashmir Set on Fire
BK090308 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 9 Oct 86

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, the (Najrah) bridge, the longest of the state's flood channel, was damaged partially due to a fire on Tuesday night. Vehicular traffic came to a stand still.

An official spokesman said in Srinagar that some miscreants set the bridge on fire. Four persons have been apprehended. The bridge connects the capital Srinagar with some important and developing suburbs.

In Sopor, the curfew was imposed as a precautionary measure and has been lifted from the civil line area [sentence as heard]. Police have arrested 26 persons for allegedly spreading rumors and causing disturbances.

'Dreaded Terrorist' Arrested in Punjab Village
BK081617 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Text] In Punjab, a dreaded terrorist, Kuldip Singh, alias Papu, was arrested in Satiawal village in Ferozepore District last night.

According to police sources, Kuldip Singh, who belonged to the Sukhdev Singh terrorist group, carried a reward of 50,000 rupees on his head. Some arms and ammunition were also recovered from him. During interrogations Kuldip Singh is reported to have admitted his involvement in many shootouts.

11 Killed By 'Extremists' in Village in Bihar
BK081601 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Text] Eleven persons were killed by an extremist group at Darmia village in Aurangabad District of Bihar yesterday. The state home commissioner, Mr B.K. Singh, said in Petna that the assailants were believed to be members of the Marxist Coordination Committee. The incident is said to be in retaliation for the killing of some samiti [committee] sympathizers a few days back. Mr Singh said additional police force has been deployed in the village to restore normalcy.

Coming Weinberger Visit, Afghanistan Issue Viewed

BK081039 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1005 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Text] The American defense secretary, Mr Weinberger, is arriving in Islamabad on the 14th of this month to exchange views on security environment in the region and to achieve a better mutual understanding between the two countries. A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad today that there is no specific question to be discussed and the prime minister hopes to have his perception on various international issues, including Afghanistan. Both sides are well aware of Pakistan's commitment to a peaceful negotiated settlement of Afghanistan issue based on principles endorsed by the world communtiy.

In reply to a question, the spokesman categorically stated that Mr Weinberger is not coming to discuss sale of military equipment.

Answering another question, he said that Pakistan has not received any communication from the Soviet Union in regard to the date of commencement of the withdrawal of six regiments from Afghanistan announced by the Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachev. Pakistan's attitude has been that it is a small first step to be welcomed as part of the process of the complete withdrawal of Soviet forces from that country.

Yaqub Khan on Afghan Issue, Relations With India

BK081615 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Text] The UN General Assembly will begin a 2-day debate on Afghanistan on 4 November, according to an announcement to this effect by UN General Assembly President Humayun Rashid Chowdhury at the United Nations. The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, who returned to Islamabad from New York today, told newsmen that Pakistan expects that this resolution will be adopted by an overwhelming majority as was the case last year.

In reply to a question, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said that the Soviet stand regarding withdrawal of forces is totally clear and Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze reiterated it during their meeting in New York. Aside from this, Pakistan is in direct touch with the Soviet Union regarding the process of the Geneva talks. Negotiations are also continuing at the diplomatic level.

About the damage caused to India-Pakistan relations, the foreign minister said Pakistan will raise this issue during the summit conference of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation in India's Bangalore city and will make every effort to remove misunderstandings toward establishing good relations.

Junejo To Lead Delegation to SARC Summit

BK081041 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1005 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, will lead the Pakistan delegation to the second SARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] summit to be held in Bangalore in India from the 15th of next month. Pakistan will take part in the summit with the determination to make a positive and constructive contribution to further develop cooperation in South Asia.

The main topics of discussion at the summit will relate to the review of progress in cooperation in nine areas as already agreed. It will also consider prospects of any additional new area and provide opportunity to exchange views on matters of cooperation and bilateral interest. The summit will also endorse the recommendations by the foreign ministers relating to the establishment of SARC Secretariat at Katmandu. It will designate the first secretary general of the SARC which is to be nominated by Bangladesh.

Kabul Plan To Shift Population to West 'Appalling'

BK081318 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1715 GMT 7 Oct 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Along with other news, the most apalling news that has been received from across Pakistan's western border has been that the Kabul regime intends to transfer (?en masse) a large portion of its population from the southeast area to the western side of Afghanistan. One of the most potent effects, however, has been that over one-third to one-fifth of the actual population of Afghanistan has been driven into exile in Pakistan and Iran to seek refuge against aerial attacks and ground shellings. It would be an awful fate for them to face another forced movement to be shifted lock, stock, and barrel to other parts of Afghanistan. Not only would it be a serious problem for them to face in terms of terrain, it would certainly tear up the ties of family and tribe which are so dear to them.

Southeast Afghanistan consists of mountainous terrain with enough water available to maintain grasslands and grain production. Western Afghanistan, on the other hand, is mostly plain and a part of the old historical [word indistinct] and desert. For thousands of years it has been sparsely populated. Very hot in the summer and very cold in the winter. It is obvious that the population would not like to move of their own free will. They shall have to be shifted by force. In the past also, some communities have been dumped in Central Asia and forced to put their roots into unknown soil. It was done in an organized way with an immense number of trucks appearing suddenly and forcing families to board them.

What is more likely to happen in Afghanistan is that it would let loose another flood of migrations toward the (?oasis) of Pakistan. Pakistan already has as many as 3.2 million Afghan refugees to whom it has been playing host for the last 6 years. What effect would this new migration have one cannot say. But it would be very true to say that no country much less one like Pakistan can stand the pressure of this new problem. While there are fresh indications of the likelihood of further indirect talks between Pakistan and the representatives of Afghanistan's puppet regime, we are sure Kabul would not be hasty in its decisions. The withdrawal of part of the Soviet forces promised by Secretary

General Gorbachev will be carried out within a few days from now. The Soviet Government while announcing this has also expressed the hope that the withdrawals would continue as soon as an agreement is signed at Geneva. Hopes have gone up and the Pakistan foreign minister has also expressed the likelihood that the Iceland summit between the Soviet Union and the United States would bring about a possible agreement on the Afghan issue.

Under the circumstances, a plan to physically transfer a large section of population from one side of the country to the other would not be right. A country like Afghanistan cannot afford it. It is comparatively small and not naturally so well endowed that populations may be planted in places where nature has not willed them to grow. And so, it is a strong presumption that such transfers cannot remain in place in the face of nature. That is unless Kabul has enough forces to keep them there with bayonets. It is likely they would eventually filter out and be a burden elsewhere. Afghanistan had a prewar population of 15 million. Part of this 3.2 million are in Pakistan, 1.5 million are in Iran, and nearly a million have been killed. This is nothing but a genocide of a nation.

Khamene'i Briefed by Joint Staff Chief on War Status

LD090653 Tehran IRNA in English 0644 GMT 9 Oct 86

[Text] Tehran, Oct 9 IRNA — Chief of the Joint Staff of the Islamic Republic Army, Colonel Esma'il Sohrabi, met with president and head of the Supreme Defence Council, 'Ali Khamene'i, here Wednesday.

During the meeting Colonel Sohrabi briefed the president on present status of the Armed Forces in their fight against the Iraqi Ba'thist regime and the combat readiness of Muslim combatants.

Meanwhile the president received members of the Majlis Plan and Budget Committee and two other deputies Wednesday.

The deputies reported to the president on economic situation of the country and one of them presented to the president some gold and jewelry donated by the people to be used for war efforts.

Velayati's UN Speech Urges Punishment of Aggression

PM081601 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 2 Oct 86 pp 3-18

[Unidentified *Keyhan* correspondent report comprising "full text" of 2 October speech to UN General Assembly by Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati — untitled]

[Excerpts] The United Nations today is the only organization that can strive to achieve a sensible and just political rule for this international family, so full of problems and issues. Therefore, this organization's heavy responsibility is undeniable. [passage omitted]

We believe that this organization has had some successes. This body has created a huge forum for international communications in all fields, from economy to politics, and from culture to science and technology. This very fact has done a tremendous amount to promote the idea of a unified international family regardless of color or creed, culture or language. The other achievement of the United Nations has been to eliminate slavery.

Resolution 1514 was a primal scream against the control of innocent nations by powerful countries, and today colonialism in the old sense of the word has died for many of them. Independent countries are being born one after another, and this is something very valuable and praiseworthy. But the plague of colonialism has been replaced by something dangerous called "neocolonialism." This neocolonialism has infected many countries and is very important, and we have to study its roots. [passage omitted]

Mr Chairman, although underdevelopment clears the way for neocolonialism, the major powers have succeeded in gaining control over other countries mostly because economics do not prevail in relations within international organizations, so that the national security, independence, and territorial integrity of member countries are not safeguarded. [passage omitted]

Modern international relations are ruled by the principle of power and control, and this is why we must be concerned about peace and security in the world. The United Nations has not only been inactive in countering this dangerous situation but has actually accepted the status quo. [passage omitted]

Today, international peace is threatened only by the victorious [in World War II] powers, so that giving a veto to the permanent members of the Security Council makes a joke of the international family. As long as this birthright remains in the UN Charter, this organization can take no serious action to combat aggression.

The Security Council's experiences over the past few years proves our point. You can see that there has been no significant or effective UN movement in the past few years with regard to aggressions against the territorial integrity and independence of any country, including nations in Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, or in Iran, Libya, or Afghanistan. In some cases we see the Security Council becoming very active with regard to the crimes of one aggressor and even going so far as to support the aggressor rather than the victim. [passage omitted]

Mr President, if for any reason the United Nations fails in its main duty, which is to safeguard the independence and territorial integrity of nations and international peace, it must at least support those peoples who have decided to resist aggression. This is the least that can be expected from this international organization. Therefore, supporting liberation movements and backing regimes which have achieved independence following a popular revolution and struggle must be the main duty of the United Nations. [passage omitted]

One of the prime examples of this is the Islamic Revolution in Iran and the establishment of the revolutionary Islamic Republic of Iran. From the time of its establishment this regime has been the target of aggressions. I do not want to go too far back in history to find the roots. But a recent political event in our country was the coup arranged by the CIA in 1953, which led to the rule of the puppet Pahlavi regime. The people of Iran never accepted this pressure and started to resist it. This came to fruition in 1979. It goes without saying that during those 25 years of struggle thousands of Iran's best children sacrificed their lives and the people of Iran went through very hard days. Under the aggressors' rule nothing was safe from the looters: They stole our oil wealth, our culture and language were ravaged, the economy became sick and useless, and so forth. The Islamic Revolution in Iran provoked a cultural movement in the Islamic world and among the downtrodden peoples. This movement carries a message of resistance against all acts of oppression, and its lesson is one of sacrifice in order to achieve independence and justice. The Islamic Revolution's victory worried the oppressive powers greatly, and that is why from the very beginning of the revolution the chain of plots started, one after the other. This continuous plot emanated from the aggressive foreign superpowers, and it will be defeated with the unified defense of the Muslim people. The situation became so bad that the United States staged a direct military aggression against Iran during the incident at Tabas.

A widespread economic boycott and a huge all-round propaganda onslaught were added to the total sum of aggressions against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Although these plots were defeated right from the start, the entire period has seen no sign of any effective or positive UN action. Did the total sum of these aggressions have no connection with the United Nations' proper duties? In many cases a small incident becomes a huge issue in this organization. Emergency meetings of the Security Council and the General Assembly are held and resolutions are issued one after another. Actions are condemned and apologies offered. When it comes to Iran, an economic boycott is imposed, foreign powers meddle in our internal affairs, and Iran is besigned and then attacked. Yet it seems as if nothing has happened.

The series of plots finally culminated in an extensive military attack by Iraq against the Islamic Republic of Iran. This aggression has now been going on for more than 6 years and is still continuing.

Mr President, without a doubt, one of the biggest plots staged against the Islamic Revolution is the widespread, pre-planned military attack of the Iraqi regime against the land of Iran. This aggression is the first of its kind since World War II in terms of the area covered and the number of forces involved. On 22 September 1980, all of a sudden more than 12 divisions and several independent brigades attacked Iranian territory, with unique savagery, from air, land, and sea. Defenseless towns and villages fell one after the other and the aggressor army took civilians as prisoners. The crimes committed by the aggressive Iraqis have no bounds and rival the crimes of Attilla the Hun and Genghis Khan in history.

Thousands of kilometers of our land were occupied by the Iraqi military from the first days of the aggression and more than 1,000 towns and villages were destroyed. Some towns such as Qasr-e Shirin and Naft Shahr are still in Iraqi hands.

To discover a motive and a principle reason for the attack of the Iraqi regime is not difficult and does not need complex analyses. It is enough to witness the behavior of the aggressor in the military, political, and propagandistic arena.

The fact that Iraq undertook such an aggression in such an extensive manner and that its army advanced up to the point where it met resistance and obstacles is itslf proof that Iraq in no way meant only to solve a border dispute. The speeches of Saddam himself leave no doubt that the aggressive Iraqi regime's main goal was to topple the Islamic Revolution regime. There are maps drawn up by Saddam and the Iraqi regime, even in school books and in other places, where some parts of Iran are separated. These facts all point to the truth that the aggressive Iraqi regime had the intention of capturing vast portions of Iranian territory.

In other words, the Iran-Iraq war is nothing but an extensive act of aggression by one regime against the independence, national rights, and territorial integrity of another nation. Of course, in this particular case we have to add aggression against a revolution as well.

The timing of the attack has special importance. Iraq, in a naive and simple calculation, thought that the revolution did not have the necessary strength in Iran. The army, they thought, was weak. Iraq undertook this crime in full confidence of its own victory. Of course, the Iraqi regime did not worry in the least about international organizations. It was sure of a victory, and the current logic prevalent in international relations is to accept new conditions — which Iraq saw to be in its interest.

When they saw such an aggression launched against them, our people had only two choices: One was to surrender in the face of force, the other was to resist. Our people are a proud nation, freedom-loving and brave, and they did not receive their Islamic Revolution as a gift from any of the superpowers. This revolution bore fruit as a result of the courage and struggle of thousands of its men and women after many long years. An act of aggression against the revolution was for every person in our country an aggression against our very existence. From the first day the aggressor launched the war against us, we have proudly made him regret his action, we have said only one thing, and we have acted on our word.

The aggressor has to be condemned and punished. Peace has to be established based on justice between the two countries and throughout the region. In our resistance we have relied only on God Almighty and on our own strength. If we were to describe our achievements we would have to say to the peoples who are facing aggression that, if the nations of the world make a firm decision to counter an act of aggression against their land, independence, and national sovereignty, the people will succeed -- even if they are all alone and the aggressors are in the service of others. It could be Hitler or Saddam; in either case he will encounter the same fate.

Iraq has not only committed an act of betrayal against human rights and international peace by staging a military aggression against our country, but it has also broken the world record in war crimes during the past 6 years. Unfortunately, despite a specific UN report about the physical torture of Iranians in Iraqi camps and despite the advice given in that report, there have as yet been no changes in this area. Attacks on residential areas and the war of the cities which martyred thousands of our men and women, old and young, constitute another of the war crimes committed by the Saddam regime. The 12 June 1984 agreement did not last very long, and Iraq only refrained from its crimes for a very short time. As has been mentioned in UN documents, Iraq boldly and openly renewed its attacks on civilian targets. This crime continues today.

Attacks against civil aircraft are a rare occurrence in the world. How can international organizations stand by and watch a government undertaking such savage crimes when the same government clearly issued the 17 March 1981 accord? The latest example of this was the attack against a passenger airliner belonging to (Aseman) airlines flying over the city of Ahvaz on 20 February 1985, which resulted in the martyrdom of about 40 of its civilian passengers.

Mr Chairman, one of the horrible crimes committed by Iraq is the repeated use of chemical weapons. Following the 1985 and 1984 UN reports which confirmed that chemical weapons had been used, another UN report specified that Iraq had continually used chemical weapons over a vast area. This report was the result of the findings and visit by a group sent to the Kordestan area on behalf of the secretary general. This report is one of the

most important international documents and is the first proven case since the founding of the United Nations in which a country has been named for violating the important 1925 Geneva Convention. Unfortunately, it has yet to be attended to or reviewed.

Some Western and Arab countries and also some nonaligned and Muslim nations took clear positions with regard to this crime committed by Iraq. The UN Security Council on 21 March 1986 condemned the Iraqi regime, but these positions and views are not enough compared to the widespread implications of the Iraqis' inhuman actions. This is why, following the Security Council statement, Iraq deployed chemical weapons five more times, on 22 and 23 March and then in April and May. It even used chemical weapons in residential areas.

The Security Council has a real responsibility in this regard. If a small country like Iraq is permitted to violate one of the most important international accords in this brazen manner, with regard to weapons that figure prominently in arms limitation talks, what guarantee can there be for other existing accords and agreements or even any future agreements?

The international community expects the Security Council to condemn the renewed use of chemical weapons by the Iraqi regime in a resolution, and it should clearly ask that regime to give definite promises in this regard. It should also ask different countries to stop exporting chemicals and technology to Iraq that can be used in the manufacture of chemical weapons. It should impose strict regulations in this field. Also, because the 1925 Geneva Convention has been weakened by the effects of Iraq's deployment of chemical weapons, the Security Council should ask different countries to once again issue a pledge to honor that convention.

Another UN duty is to ban the export of chemical weapons to Iraq. Although there is a slight possibility that mustard gas is being produced by Iraq itself using various imported chemical substances, nerve gas, whose use has been confirmed in the 1984 UN report, is a highly complex chemical weapon which is most certainly being exported to Iraq by technologically advanced nations. There are enough witnesses and documents to prove this claim. [passage omitted]

Mr Chairman, what is the legal body that can look into Iraq's violations of international agreements? We think that, for example, the International Court in The Hague should be able to look into violations of the Geneva Convention by Iraq, independently and regardless of our conditions. I hope that those involved with international affairs think deeply about these issues, and I hope that this organization can look into constructive suggestions in this regard.

Mr Chairman, without a doubt the Iraqi regime's overt and widespread aggressions against the Islamic Republic of Iran and its consequences, which have now entered their 7th year, are endangering the security of the region and are a serious threat to world peace. Today this war is considered one of the world's most important issues. Different countries have taken different positions in connection with the war, and these can be divided into three groups.

The first group consists of countries which in practical terms have never failed to help Iraq, the aggressor. In terms of sending deadly weapons and financial and economic aid and in terms of political support, these countries mostly include the superpowers and their lackeys. These nations say many cunning things in their diplomatic slogans. In words alone they say that war and bloodshed are bad things and that the two sides have to negotiate, but in their actions, by giving continued help to the aggressor, they have in effect caused the war to be prolonged. If our problems with Iraq were limited to a piece of land, a sum of money, or some such thing, negotiations would make sense. But Iraq attacked us in order to topple our regime and did whatever was in its power. Is there one sane human in the world who is willing to negotiate over his very existence? It seems that these countries in the first group have no other aim than to save the aggressor, because he has been defeated and they are worried.

Can we push the aggressor out of our territory by negotiation? It was the never-ending battle of our warriors that pushed the aggressor out of our country, step by step. We are now asking the chairman, the secretary general, and all representatives to give us one example of one time during these 6 years when Iraq, on its own initiative and independently, has pulled back from our land. We have liberated every bit of our land with the blood of our loved ones. In such a case, who would be so naive as to talk about Iraq's peace-loving intentions?

Mr Chairman, if you will permit me, I will tell the truth. The Islamic Revolution destroyed one of the biggest U.S. control bases in the region. Instead of the puppet regime that was in power under U.S. control, this regime has established a rule which is not and does not want to be under the control of any of the superpowers. Nonalignment is practiced in the policies of the Islamic Republic in its true meaning. Every day more and more countries understand the achievement of such a status and like this principle, which is more and more to the disadvantage of the United States. Combating this trend is the main aim in the major powers' support for the aggressor Iraqi regime.

The second group includes those countries which have taken a more or less neutral position with regard to our two countries and only condemn the fighting and the bloodshed. My question to this group of countries in the international family is this: What position would they take if such an aggression were launched against their country, if their country were destroyed under the boots of foreign soldiers? What would they expect of other nations? Would they not at least ask that the aggressor be condemned and punished? In any case, why should they think themselves different from other nations in the international community? These friends should know that, if aggression is not condemned, if it becomes acceptable, or else if the aggressors of the world find out that they have an escape route, without a doubt this issue will be repeated. In that case we shall witness the daily increase of aggressors and aggression. Then the possibility that any of the Western countries might be attacked will increase. On the other hand, being part of the international community cannot be without its responsibilities.

Safeguarding world peace and security is the duty of all members. In any case, aggression is the biggest threat to world peace

and security. It makes sense for the aggressor to be condemned and punished so that world peace will not be threatened.

The third group includes those countries which gradually, during the years of the imposed war, have moved in the direction of justice. With a doubt, this movement is noted, but it needs to quicken its pace. Progress toward a just solution should not be achieved only within the framework of bilateral relations. Before considering the strengthening of bilateral ties, we think of strengthening international principles based on justice. Condemning the act of staging a war, must be an answer to the conscience of mankind before it is a response to the will of the victims.

Mr Chairman, we feel that the war is nearing its final stages. The end of the war, which will without doubt include punishment for the aggressive Iraqi regime, will also have many positive results for peace in the region and for the international community.

There is little time left for those countries and organizations which for any reason have failed to do their international duty with regard to the Iraqi aggression to make up for this. We announce that, in accordance with all world principles and regulations, the responsibility for war cannot be divided. Viewing the start and the continuation of the war as two sets of responsibilities contradicts the most basic international principles. Iraq is responsible for the whole of the war, both its start and its continuation. Of course, those who helped the aggressive Iraqi regime have a responsibility with regard to the continuation of the war.

Mr Chairman, describing the crimes and savagery of the imposed war will take a long time, and in any case we believe that an even more important issue that we have to discuss in this organization is the future situation of the sensitive, important, and strategic area of the Persian Gulf. Our region cannot bear another destructive war. The imposed Iraqi war has wasted many important resources of the area. We and other nations of the area have to use everything at our disposal to create a situation in order to establish a lasting peace in the region. We must have a plan that guarantees the security of the area, the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of all the countries in the area.

Even now there are hopeful signs that signal the possibility of stable, friendly relations being established among all the nations in the region. We have to strengthen these hopes and make them come true. We are ready to enter into action in order to safeguard the long-term strategic security of the region. Of course this action cannot be one-sided. If, despite all these hopes, some of the area's countries, instead of thinking about the above-mentioned matters, continue to support the flimsy Saddam regime, they will hurt their own national interests. With the removal of the roots of aggression, our area has all the necessary elements to achieve a lasting peace. Revealing these elements to the countries of the area can be considered our most effective duty. We can reveal these elements as soon as possible, in order to remove any excuse for major powers to meddle in the region.

Mr Chairman, the need to look into the future with regard to regional peace is not limited to the Persian Gulf. The continued occupation of Afghanistan by Soviet troops has unfortunately created the right atmosphere for more violence in the area, which has threatened the peace and security of the entire region.

The Geneva talks, for reasons predicted by the Islamic Republic, have not achieved success. Rather they have become an excuse for the continued presence of the occupying forces and the confusion of world public opinion. This has made the talks a negative aspect in the DRA issue. It has become more evident that the occupation of Afghanistan, which was originally carried out in order to solve the Afghan people's problems in the face of foreign threats, is today the biggest problem for the people of Afghanistan. More than that, it has strengthened the excuse for some Western powers to have a presence there.

Our region's security can no longer be the sacrificial lamb in superpower competitions and rivalry. The issue of Afghanistan cannot be solved within the framework of providing for one superpower's interests. The principles announced by the Islamic Republic, whose truth has been proven, is more evident today: the unconditional and rapid withdrawal of the occupying forces in order to allow the people of Afghanistan to determine their own fate, the unimpeded return of all Afghan refugees, and noninterference by any country in the Afghans' internal affairs. These principles must form the basis of any viable solution to the Afghan issue. Afghanistan needs stability, and that stability can only be achieved through the establishment of an independent, nonaligned regime, dependent on its people's support. Of course the foreign policy of such a regime cannot be other than to establish friendly ties with all countries of the region, especially neighbors.

The situation in Afghanistan affects our national security directly, and the continued entry of Afghan refugees into our country has caused us practical problems, and this is why we are watching the developments in the DRA carefully.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, despite all the problems that we have at this sensitive and historic time, has always looked after some 2 million Afghan refugees. In any event, the international duties of the world community dictate that the UN High Commissioner for Refugees look seriously into this issue. [passage omitted]

Mr Chairman, this General Assembly must also take a close look at the issue of terrorism. Resolution 4.61 was passed with many footnotes in order to get the United States to accept it. The United States itself accepted this framework but nevertheless undertook unprecedented aggression with the excuse of terrorism. This is why this current General Assembly has to define terrorism and government-sponsored terrorism and analyze its roots.

The Islamic Republic of Iran believes that the real victims of terrorism, either individual or government-sponsored, are the Third World nations. But because they do not have access to the international mass media, terrorism in these countries is ignored, while small isolated incidents that involve Western countries become the most important international news items. [passage omitted]

While condemning terrorism in all its shapes and forms, incuding government-sponsored terrorism, we recognize the rights of liberation movements to continue their struggle. We ask that countries, especially in the West, do not give facilities to terrorist groups, and we ask that the present conventions on this issue be strengthened. [passage omitted]

Iraq Urges UN Resolution To Prevent 'Great Offensive'

NC090736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 9 Oct 86

[Text] REUTER reports that the UN Security Council published a resolution last night calling on Iran and Iraq to implement UN Security Council Resolution 528 of 24 February 1986 on the Iran-Iraq war.

The recent UN Security Council met following a request by the Iraqi regime, Jordan, Morocco, and a number of other Arab countries. In their request, the Iraqi regime and its mentors referred to what they described as the threat of a great offensive by the Iranian forces. They called for the UN Security Council to take a strong stand to prevent this offensive and to bring Iran to the negotiating table.

The UN Security Council's resolution last night calls on the UN secretary general to increase his efforts with the warring parties to ensure the implementation of UN Resolution 528. He was also requested to submit a report on his activities to the UN Security Council no later than 30 November 1986. The resolution assigns the Security Council's next session with the task of studying what it calls prerequisites for establishing a lasting peace in accordance with the UN Charter.

It should be recalled that before the recent UN Security Council meeting, Mr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the Islamic Republic's foreign minister, had affirmed that if the Security Council does not adopt an impartial stand on the imposed war and condemn both Iraq's military aggression against Islamic Iran and the crimes of Baghdad — namely, the deployment of chemical weapons, attacks on civilian areas, and attacks on neutral commercial vessels and passenger planes — then Iran will consider the UN Security Council resolutions to be void and contrary to the UN Charter.

Musavi Delivers Speeches in Fars on War, Economy

PM080917 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 30 Sep 86 p 18

[Unidentified *Keyhan* correspondent report on Prime Minister Musavi's trip to Shiraz]

[Excerpts] Engineer Mir Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister, who is visiting Shiraz in order to open a chemistry PhD course at Shiraz University, gave a speech following a tour of the chemistry faculty's laboratories in the university's science department.

This is the first PhD course in chemistry in Iran. During his speech the prime minister commented on the importance of university research and said: We want to utilize our brains and our science in the manner that we want. These universities are the basis of our growth, a movement in the direction of scientific growth, and a sign of our effort toward self-sufficiency and independence. [passage omitted]

During his visit to Shiraz the prime minister also met with the militant clergy of Fars Province yesterday morning and gave a speech. During this speech he outlined the country's political, economic, and military situation. He commented on the problems caused by the arrogant powers in order to weaken the revolution. He praised the heroic resistance of the people and said: The main example for this resistance and patience in the face of difficulties comes from Islamic ideology and the leadership of the imam of ummah.

He spoke about the efforts of the enemies of the revolution to lower the country's hard currency revenues and said: We have accepted and agreed not to allow the drop in our hard currency earnings to affect the war and the fronts. The government has tried to cut back in the services sector so that the basic fundamental programs would not be damaged.

Musavi added: The government has tried with all its might to bring into production the Mobarakeh plant and dozens of other projects which will play an important role in the country's economy. We have planned the country's executive policies in such a way as to be able to bear any condition so that under no circumstances would we have to ask for foreign loans. Our enemies' real plan, as part of their economic adventurism, was to force us into a compromise in this war that has been imposed on our revolution. But our people, who have emerged victorious from all aspects of the revolution, have met the conditions with revolutionary patience and tolerated problems without relinquishing one bit of their revolutionary principles and slogans. [passage omitted]

The prime minister stressed: The government's policy is to rebuild areas damaged by the enemy. The government's slogan is: If the enemy destroys, our reconstruction power has to be greater than his destructive power. The backbone of this guarantee is our religious people and workers who rebuild their workshops with bleeding faces and bodies wounded by shrapnel. This is how the country is managed. [passage omitted]

Yesterday afternoon the prime minister took part in the Fars Province administrative meeting, also attended by the governor general, administrative officials, military commanders, police, and local officers. He gave a speech and commented on the Iranian victories in the Val Fajr-8 and Mehran operations and the effects of these victories on the morale of the flimsy Iraqi regime.

He said: Iraq today has received economic blows and this is why it has sent 40 percent of its office workers to the fronts. This is occurring at a time when we are moving toward making our own weapons and while we receive no foreign loans. The commanders of the Islamic army fill the void left by lack of weapons with technique, the bravery of the Islamic warriors, and the people's resistance and they will reply to any act of arrogance in the region.

The prime minister added: The lower currency reserves have had no effects on the war fronts, whereas Iraq is dependent in

every sense of the word on the superpowers and has to pay back huge loans to France, Yugoslavia, Italy, and so forth.

The prime minister said: A comprehensive 2-year plan has been devised for the country which is unique, and the general outlines for the war and other things have been forseen in the plan.

The prime minister said: If God is willing, we shall be able to prove in March 1987 [the beginning of the Iranian new year] that oil will not have a role in our country's economy. This is because in a single year our meat and dairy products alone come to some 2,300 billion rials, which is more than our industrial output.

In another part of his speech the prime minister said that employment and control of inflation are two of the government's important issues. He added: We have the duty to solve the people's and the country's problems and we should not allow these problems to cause issues on a national scale. We have to regard this important issue in practical terms so that we may be able to show resistance against the United States, world arrogance, and the Saddam regime, which the world aggressors have armed to the teeth.

He concluded by saying: Officials have to activate their offices and reply to the people's problems and they must have contacts with the masses. They should not sacrifice the interests of the population for the sake of the interests of a special group. They should avoid individualistic decisions and should put aside private matters and friendship. [passage omitted]

Says War With Iraq at 'Decisive Stage'

LD081702 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Text] Tehran, Oct 8, IRNA — The heroic resistance of our Muslim nation has brought the imposed-war to a decisive stage and by further mobilizing our people, we will end the war successfully during this year of destiny, said Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi Tuesday.

Premier Musavi, speaking to a group of ulema, and also commanders and members of Basij bases from western and southern Tehran, added that Iraqi regime is now under extreme military, economic, and political pressure.

He said that the cooperation between our people and our ulema has proved that they will defend revolution and the Islamic Republic tooth and nail and shatter the dreams of our enemies to overcome us.

He added that our Muslim nation has bravely stood up to the enemies, armed with the power of faith and this is a lesson for all the world.

Besharati Comments on Visit to Latin America

LD081324 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Text] During a press conference this morning, Deputy Foreign Minister Besharati described the outcome of his recent trip to Brazil, Peru, and Argentina saying: In the course of my trip to Brazil talks were held on various issues including the imposed war and Brazil's military assistance to the Iraqi regime. Brazil accepted that Iraq started the war.

Referring to Iraq's $2.8 billion debt to Brazil, he said: In a memorandum of understanding foundations were prepared to set up the two countries' joint commission and it was agreed to hold the meeting before the end of the current Christian year.

Announcing that Peru will open its embassy in Tehran soon, Mr Besharati added: That country's authorities expressed a desire to expand bilateral relations including agricultural exchanges involving livestock, poultry, fishmeal, and similar products.

In conclusion, referring to the fact that trade with Argentina, particularly in the purchase of wheat, will be on a barter basis and oil will be delivered to that country, Mr Besharati declared that the two countries' relations will be upgraded from the charge d'affaires to the ambassadorial level.

Commentary Criticizes GCC, Support for Iraq

NC081048 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Commentary by the Central News Unit Research Group entitled: "The Continuation of Saddam's Crimes and the Futile Efforts by World Arrogance"]

[Text] Iraq's Ba'thist regime, supported by world arrogance and its regional mentors, has recently carried out fresh attacks against civilian areas and certain economic and labor centers. During these attacks, two industrial-labor centers in Khuzestan Province were damaged by Iraqi Ba'thist planes and several civilians, as well as toiling Muslim workers, were killed. In the wake of these attacks, the War Propaganda Office issued a statement in which it announced that the combatants of Islam had carried out resistance operations against Iraq's Ba'thist regime. Attacks were launched against economic and industrial installations in Basra and Khanaqin, the statement added, and the 7th Army Command headquarters, as well as economic installations in Iraq's Al-Kut, were destroyed. Four Iraqi planes were also downed when they tried to raid Iranian cities.

Saddam's recent crimes, in the form of raids on Iranian cities, take place when Saddam's mentors have begun to make increased but futile efforts in international organizations, particularly at the United Nations. Representatives from Persian Gulf littoral states have expressed concern about the war and have called for an immediate UN Security Council meeting to discuss it. They have also asked the United States and other permanent UN members to increase pressure on the Islamic Republic of Iran to end Iraq's war against it.

The efforts being made by these countries come at a time when the victories achieved by the combatants of Islam this year have left the Iraqi regime repeatedly defeated, despite assistance from these very countries. They come at a time when a dark future awaits Saddam and the Iraqi Ba'thist regime. Following the green light given by the Persian Gulf states, countries like the

United States and Britain have begun activities in the region in tandem with distributed comments. These remarks primarily focus on support for Iraq's Ba'thist regime. These countries seek to achieve their own objectives in the Persian Gulf and to pave the road for a greater presence in the region. Preparations in this regard were started by the propaganda machinery of world arrogance weeks ago.

In line with these goals, the U.S. Navy commander affirmed in an interview with the *Al-Bayan* newspaper that the United States has interests in the Persian Gulf and is striving to defend them. General George Crist, commander of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force, also arrived in Doha for talks with Qatari officials on the military situation in the Persian Gulf. He held additional talks with the defense ministers of Saudi Arabia and Bahrain. According to DPA reports, the GCC defense ministers also met at the same time. At the end of their conference, GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah announced that the responsibility for defending the freedom of navigation in the Persian Gulf rests on the shoulders of the world and not on those of the Gulf states. Mr 'Abdallah Bisharah made this statement despite the fact that he had announced in New York a week earlier that inviting the United States and other NATO militarists to the Persian Gulf would be tantamount to kissing the gallows.

The clear contradiction seen in the remarks by Mr 'Abdallah Bisharah is proof of the weakness within the GCC and the helplessness its members feel in decisively tackling existing problems. GCC members should think very carefully about this and precisely assess the possible impacts their acts and requests may have. They should bear in mind what crucial effects an invitation to the hegemonists to declare their military presence in the Persian Gulf might have and how this could cast them into a horrific abyss that will never be in their interests.

In evaluating the issues pertaining to the Persian Gulf, these countries should also realize that current developments in the war and the strong presence of the forces of Islam vis-a-vis Saddam's crimes have never before been so much in favor of the establishment of lasting peace and security in the region. Instead of their overt and covert support, they should try to destroy the root of the aggression and sedition.

Health Minister on WHO Session, Iraq as Future Host

LD082227 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Excerpts] Dr Marandi, the minister of health, treatment and medical training who travelled to Kuwait in order to participate in the 33rd session of the regional committee of the World Health Organization [WHO] on his return to Tehran today, in an interview with a central news unit reporter, talked about the results of this trip and the stance adopted by the Islamic Republic of Iran in the WHO session. We draw your attention to this interview:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Mr Marandi, while describing the outcome of the WHO session could you please also tell us about the stance adopted by the Islamic Republic of Iran in the session.

[Marandi] [Passage omitted on general topics discussed] Among other questions discussed was one relating to chemical bombs and weapons and we asked that this issue be placed on the agenda, and as usual, they did not agree to this. In particular, some countries appeared to have entered into collusion beforehand to prevent this topic from being included in the agenda. We were a witness to the same kind of behavior during the last session but, finally we did manage to make ourselves heard in defense of the point that this topic should be placed on the agenda and we also said what we had to say about Iraq's use of chemical weapons and its condemnation.

Another question raised and discussed in the final day of the session was where the WHO session should be held next year. Some time ago Iraq had requested that it be held there and it appears that Arab countries had agreed to this. However, we protested and argued that a country that does not take the fundamentals of health into consideration may turn around and say that it did not have to do such things, and particularly, taking note that Iraq is continuously bombing out cities, we too may, in certain special circumstances be forced to take certain measures. We basically feel that Baghdad is not a secure place for future sessions. In any case, in spite of these arguments they still went ahead and approved that the next session be held in Iraq. But, we are hopeful that, God willing, in the course of the next few months, the fate of Saddam and the Saddamist regime will be decided, and God willing, by next year when the WHO session meets, a popular and Muslim government will be in power in Iraq so that we too (?will be able to both pay pilgrimage to Karbala') and also to attend the meeting. [passage omitted][end recording]

Tehran: Kurdish Muslims Capture Iraqi Base 2 Oct

LD082144 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Text] Following an attack by Iraqi Kurdish Muslim revolutionaries on an enemy military base on the Kirkuk-Sulaymaniyah axis in the vicinity of Band-e Bazian on 2 October, the enemy base fell and five Saddamist troops were captured by the Iraqi Kurdish Muslim revolutionaries. Also the weapons, equipment, and ammunition kept in that base were captured intact.

Another report from inside Iraqi territory indicates that the Zionist Ba'thist regime ruling Iraq, as revenge for its continuous defeats and the blows it has suffered at the hands of the Iraqi Kurdish Muslim revolutionaries, using advanced weapons intended to launch an attack on the headquarters of the Kurdish Muslim peshmergas in the Mar-e Resh region. The attack was repulsed, however, thanks to the resistance put up by the Hezbollahi peshmergas and the Ba'thist mercenaries were forced to retreat after heavy losses.

Hungarian Television Film Crew Visits Al-Faw

LD081026 Tehran IRNA in English 1706 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Oct 8, IRNA — A team of cameramen from the Hungarian state radio and television network visited the liberated Iraqi port city of Al-Faw Wednesday

and filmed and filed reports on the victories of the Iranian Muslim combatants.

On seeing the heavy fortifications of the Ba'thist troops at this strategic peninsula they were astonished at the valour of the Iranian forces in crossing the Arvand River and overcoming these hurdles during the Val-Fajr-Eight operations on February 9 which liberated Al-Faw.

The Hungarians posed a question to a volunteer soldier at Al-Faw, as to why the Iranians are fighting Iraq; the soldier replied that Iran had not initiated the war and was only carrying out its right of self-defence in a conflict imposed upon it at the behest of the superpowers.

The soldier also said that Iranian forces will hand over the liberated city to Iraqi Muslims after they triumph over the Ba'thist troops. "We are fighting to rid the Iraqi Muslim people of their hated Ba'thist regime". He added, "We do not covet Iraqi territory."

Head of the political section of the Hungarian television network told IRNA that he was certain that Iraqi forces can never recapture Al-Faw and that Iranian combatants have no covetous eye on Iraq's territory. He also said that he was highly impressed by the high morale of the Iranian Muslim combatants.

The cameramen also visited the city of Abadan, Khuzestan Province, and filmed the residential areas including a church devastated by Iraqi long range artillery fire.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Artillery Fire Foils Iraqi Acts

LD081853 Tehran IRNA in English 1807 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Oct 8, IRNA — Heavy Iranian artillery prevented engineering units of Iraq's Seventh Division Corps from excavating canals and fortifying positions west of the salt plant, Al-Faw peninsula, Wednesday.

In another development the coastal artillery fire of the naval forces of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) disrupted Iraqi maritime patrols around the oil platform of Al-Bakr in the Khawur 'Abdallah.

Meanwhile, Iraqi war planes raided the city of Abadan, Khuzestan Province, twice Tuesday wounding eight civilians and damaging some residential units.

Communique No 2,618

LD081555 Tehran IRNA in English 1537 GMT 8 Oct 86

[Text] Tehran, Oct 8, IRNA — Iranian long range artillery pounded Iraq's economic-industrial centers around the Iraqi cities of Khanaqin and Basra early Wednesday inflicting substantial losses, said a military communique here.

Joint Staff Communique Number 2618 [number as received] said that the shelling of Iraqi industrial economic centers was a reprisal against Iraqi air raids on Iranian industrial and economic centers, Tuesday.

At least 10 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and several enemy gun emplacements destroyed when Iranian forces shelled Iraqi positions and supply routes in Hajj 'Umran, Sardasht, and Marivan (northwestern fronts) on Tuesday, the communique said.

Iranian gendarmerie forces reconnoitered and shelled Iraqi positions in the southern fronts Tuesday killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and destroying several gun emplacements, two command jeeps, one munitions dump, and one mortar launcher of theirs. They also silenced enemy fire in Nowsud, the communique said.

Iran's Navy intercepted and inspected 12 foreign cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Monday and Tuesday, but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied that they were not carrying war-related cargo for Iraq.

In the western fronts, the communique said, a number of Iraqi soldiers were killed and 15 enemy gun emplacements and observation posts destroyed by Iranian artillery fire on Tuesday. Exchange of artillery fire in these fronts raged somewhat more heavily in the Mehran region.

The communique furthermore said that Iranian forces shelled a convoy of enemy patrols in the Mehran region, central sector of the battle fronts, Tuesday inflicting casualties and losses on them and forcing enemy patrols to flee.

Movement of Iraqi supply columns was checked in Panjwin, northwestern fronts, on Tuesday, according to the communique.